

Message

From: Pierard, Kevin [pierard.kevin@epa.gov]
Sent: 2/19/2015 11:25:11 PM
To: Hyde, Tinka [hyde.tinka@epa.gov]; Holst, Linda [holst.linda@epa.gov]; McKim, Krista [mckim.krista@epa.gov]; Kuefler, Patrick [kuefler.patrick@epa.gov]; Ireland, Scott [ireland.scott@epa.gov]; Steinbauer, Gary [steinbauer.gary@epa.gov]
Subject: Fwd: Update on schedule for public noticing the USS Minntac tailings basin water quality permit

Looks like a substantial delay of the permit pending action concerning the WR standard.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Foss, Ann (MPCA)" <ann.foss@state.mn.us>
Date: February 19, 2015 at 4:22:31 PM CST
To: " (clbartovich@uss.com)" <clbartovich@uss.com>, "Dave Smiga (dlsmiga@uss.com)" <dlsmiga@uss.com>, "Paul.Drucker@btlaw.com" <Paul.Drucker@btlaw.com>, "DVogt@1854treatyauthority.org" <DVogt@1854treatyauthority.org>, "nancyschuldt@fdlrez.com" <nancyschuldt@fdlrez.com>, "watkins@boreal.org" <watkins@boreal.org>, "esteban@glifwc.org" <esteban@glifwc.org>, Kevin Pierard <Pierard.Kevin@epamail.epa.gov>, "pmaccabee@justchangelaw.com" <pmaccabee@justchangelaw.com>
Subject: Update on schedule for public noticing the USS Minntac tailings basin water quality permit

All of you provided feedback on the pre-public notice version of the Minntac tailings basin water quality permit. I have been providing you updates on the timing of the public notice of that permit. My last email to you said our goal was to public notice on February 13.

The public notice of the Minntac tailings basin water quality permit will be delayed.

- <!--[if !supportLists]--><!--[endif]-->MPCA has been working on the analysis of the Wild Rice Standard Study, and the feedback we've received about clarifying the wild rice production water beneficial use (i.e. the definition of wild rice waters).
- <!--[if !supportLists]--><!--[endif]-->We expect to have a proposal to share regarding the standard and beneficial as early as the end of March.
- <!--[if !supportLists]--><!--[endif]-->We want to ensure that all permits for facilities upstream of potential wild rice waters are informed by the most up-to-date science available.
- <!--[if !supportLists]--><!--[endif]-->Given that the proposal will be completed soon, we've decided to hold off on putting any permits on public notice that may be upstream of a wild rice water, and where we have sulfate data available to evaluate the effluent, until the proposal for the standard and beneficial use has been completed and shared for discussion. This includes the Minntac Tailings Basin Permit.

Ann Foss
Metallic Mining Sector Director
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
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